



Boston Connects, Incorporated
Boston Empowerment Zone
2201 Washington Street
Roxbury, MA. 02119

Board Minutes
November 23, 2004

Members Present: George Greenidge, *President*, Robert Kinney, *Vice President*, Ralph Cooper, Michael Glavin, Elizabeth Miranda and Freddie Umeh

Members Absent: Joelee Baker-Bey, Gloria Coney, *Clerk*, Julia Flashner, Michael Foley, Charlotte Golar Richie, Betty Greene, Mark Maloney, Jayne Talbot, Larry Mayes, Rev. Roland McCall and Valerie Pruitt.

Ex-Officios Senator Dianne Wilkerson

BCI Staff: Shirley Carrington, Judy Roderick, Sherry O'Brien

EDIC Staff: Ken Barnes

Guests: Executive Servie Corps members: Don Goldberg, Norma Murphy and Perry Smith, Kelly Chunn, Haywood Fennell Sr. Reggie Nunnally, Ronald Owens, and Carla Richards

Mr. Greenidge, President called the meeting to order at 6:25 p.m.

Welcome and introductions were made.

1. Approval of Minutes

The minutes were tabled due to the lack of quorum.

2. Board President's Report:

Mr. Greenidge welcomed the Board, guests and members of the Executive Corps.

He referred Board members to the Board development Action Plan developed by the Executive Service Corps as a result of meetings Board members. Mr. Maloney, Mr. Umeh and Mr. Greenidge have agreed to serve on the committee along with Ms. Carrington, Acting Executive Director. Additional responses have been solicited and received from some Board members. The suggestions and comments of Board members have been incorporated into a revised Action Plan. Other Board members wishing to comment of the Action Plan were encouraged to submit their comments to Ms. Carrington.

Nomination forms for Officers of the Board were mailed to Board members with this month's Board package. Board members interested in being being nominated to serve as an Officer of the Board should submit a nomination forms Ms. Carrington by December 15, 2004. A description of the role of each Officer was handed out at the meeting and are also described on pages 10 and 11 of the Boston Connects By-Laws.



3. Acting Executive Directors Report:

Ms. Carrington announced that Judy Flashner, District 5, South Boston had been re-elected to the BCI Board of Directors on November 13, 2004. Ms. Carrington reminded the Board that there are still several (4) vacancies on the elected side, (districts 1,3, 6, and 1). On the appointed side, there are 3 seats available. She has employed several recruitment strategies to recruit Board members for these districts. The Board was encouraged to submit names of potential candidates.

A consultant has been hired to provide the technology updates for BCI websites and produce a our fall/winter newsletter.

The annual audit for Boston Connects Inc. is being conducted by Dan Dennis and Company is going smoothly. 41 individual client records from agencies that we contract with have been requested for review.

Other BCI funded programs are going well.

Ms. Carrington announced that Mr. Rick Smith, our Desk Officer from HUD made an unofficial visit to the Boston Empowerment Zone on October 25, 2004. Mr. Smith is the major contact person at the HUD office for the Boston Empowerment Zone and is responsible for monitoring our (PERMS) performance evaluation measurement system. While this was not an official visit, Mr. Smith met with Ms. Carrington and Mr. Greenidge and received a through tour of the Empowerment Zone including the economic development projects in the zone.

Ms. Carrington reported that the last information she received indicated that funding for Empowerment Zones for FY 2005 at best will be leveled funded at \$994,100.

The BCI Annual meeting is January 12, 2005 at the Hampton Inn and Suites at Crosstown from 6-8 p.m. Ms. Gail Snowden was unable to be the Annual Meeting speaker. Mr. Baker-Bey has asked Rev. Conrad Tillard to be the Speaker, Rev. Tillard is Interim Pastor at Eliot Congregational Church of Roxbury and has had experience working with the New York Empowerment Zone.

Ms. Carrington and Ms. Richards gave a presentation of the Ex-offender Initiative. Various Board members asked questions regarding the Ex-offender Initiative and answers were provides. The presentation is on file at the Boston Connects office.

There was a discussion regarding the use of the programs funded by Boston Connects, i.e. the Reentry Case-Management program and the hiring of Ex-offenders by the economic development projects projects that have been

Mr. Greenidge asked the Board to decide whether the Board should meet on its regularly scheduled date of December 28, 2004 or the optional date of December 21, 2004. It was decided that the meeting would be held on December 21, 2004.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was



adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

A true record attest:

Gloria Coney
Clerk



Thomas M. Menino, Mayor
City of Boston

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